

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-13, 16-25, 29-37, 40-48, and 50-53 are pending in the instant application after this amendment adds new claims 51-53. Claims 1, 13, 25, 37, and 50 have been amended. The amendments and new claims do not add new matter and find support throughout the specification, figures, and original claims. In particular, the amendment to claim 1 is supported at least by Figure 4. In view of the amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-13, 15-25, 28-37, and 39-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 5,956,021 to Kubota et al. (hereinafter Kubota), in view of United States Patent No. 5,543,818 to Scott (hereinafter Scott). Claim 50 is also apparently rejected on the basis of the combination of the references, however clarification of the status of Claim 50 is respectfully requested in the next Office communication. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 relates to an information entry method that is computer-executable. The method of amended claim 1 includes, among other things, *displaying each of a plurality of groups, which respectively contains a plurality of information grouped according to a predetermined rule, so that each information contained in each group is displayed*. In the method of amended claim 1, *the plurality of displayed groups are arranged in three columns*.

In the interest of expediting prosecution, claim 1 is amended to include the feature that *the plurality of displayed groups are arranged in three columns*. It is respectfully submitted that none of the prior art references disclose or suggest this feature. Kubota apparently does not disclose a grouping having three columns. Though control key area 504 and symbol key figures 510 of figure 7 of Kubota are apparently arranged into three columns, neither element 504 nor

element 510 is a plurality of information grouped according to a predetermined rule, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Kubota does not disclose or suggest this feature of amended claim 1. Likewise Scott apparently discloses characters being grouped in squares including four entries in each square, and in which the squares are arranged in a four by four matrix. Since Scott also does not disclose a plurality of displayed groups being arranged in three columns, the combination of the references does not render claim 1 unpatentable.

Claims 4-12 depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 is allowable.

Independent claims 13, 25, 37, and 50 have been amended in the same manner as claim 1 and include similar features. Therefore, these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 is allowable.

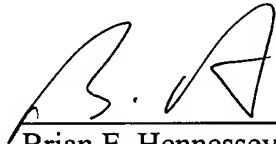
Claims 16-24 depend from claim 13; claims 29-36 depend from claim 25; and claims 40-48 depend from claim 37. Therefore these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims are allowable.

New claims 51-53 depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 is allowable.

However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. A.', is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Docket No.: 100809-00164 (SCEY 19.380)

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